Our Washington Correspond WASHINGTON, January 20, 1861. Important Political Movement-The Next Presidency, &c.

There is a letter now circulating in both house of Cougress, which, when published, will create some little excitement. It is an instrument drawn by some leading Union men, of both political parties, expressing the attachment and firm adhesence of the signers to the measures of adjustment
passed at the last session, and a piedge not to support say man for office or station (i. e., the Presideacy.) who is not an open and avowed friend of
the constitution and the Union, on the basis of the
adjustment. The letter or document is, no doubt,
exceedingly well intended, and calculated to meet
a contingency which, it is now feared by the friends
of the Union, may happen in 1852. It is to guard
against the "calamity" of carrying the next presidential election to the House of Representatives,
or, if carried there, to accure the election of a
Union candidate. It is known that Henry Clay
has signed it, and, in his espacity as Union leader
of the whig party, he has, no doubt, set a noble
example of patriotism and desinerestedness, by
signing such an important document. The Hon.
Howell Cubb, of Georgia, one of the chiefs of the
amalgamation (whig and democratic) Union party
of Georgie, has also signed it; and, I believe,
Foote and Houston have done the same. General
Cass, Judge Douglas, Mr. Dickinson, and others,
have declined to do so, on the ground that they
look upon the slavery question as having culminated; that their position as Union men is sufficiently known and understood; and that they
wish the question entirely separated from any political action having reference to the presidency.
They think the democratic party of the North sufficiently strong to put down factions, but leave it
o the Southern Union men to adopt that course
which to them may seem best calculated to advance the cause of the constitution and the Union
in their section of country. I think the action of
General Cass, Douglas, Dickinson, &c., very discreet and conciliatory, and, perhaps, best calculated to allay excitement and bring men back to a
proper sense of their duties as citizens of a great
comiederacy. Most of the Northern, and especiality Northwestern, members have refused to sign
the letter, not because th parties, expressing the attachment and firm adhe-

dent or whether the election be carried to the House.

There is now a strong probability that there will be four candidates in the field—two whigs and two democrats. General Scott is the favorite candidate of the free soil whigs, who will take him without asking any questions; but never will the Southern whigs be induced to nominate him without his establishing a platform for himself and his administration. The times are passed when Presidential candidates are permitted to remain silent on the most important national topics. The election of a President is no longer a ticket—a lottery, If Gen. Scott remains dumb, as advised by Gov. Seward, then an avowed Union whig will be run against him in the South and in some of the Northern States, and that will make two candidates.

sgainst him in the South and in some of the Morthern States, and that will make two candidates.

In regard to the democratic candidates, I can only say that the whole Northwest is united to a man on Lewis Cass, and that in no case will they consent to the substitution of a Northern candidate who shall be more acceptable to the Southern ultras. The probability is, therefore, that a Southern ultra will be run against him, and that the election will go into the House, unless Gen. Cass can carry Kentucky and Tennessee both. In no case will the Northwestern democracy support a candidate who shall be put forward by the Southern ultras as the price of their submission; and this combination of the Northwest is certain to cut off Mr. Buchanan, and, parhaps, Mr. Woodbury, though the latter seems to have considerable strength in New York and New England.

The Southern Press will probably be continued, as the organ of the nullibers, till after the next Pressdential election. It will be made a campaign paper in 1852, to divide the democratic party. The Northwestern democrate, on the other hand, swear hat they will not again be cheated or dictated to by the Southern ultras. These have not supported Gen. Cass, at the last election, as they ought to have done, many of them stomping it for him to raise Gen. Taylor, and they will not now, after all the trouble they have given to the country, allow them to dictate terms, or take advantage of their own wrongs. Depend on it, there are breakers ahead in both political parties, and that, if the next election goes to the House, we may expect great excitement, but not so much trouble as we have gone through during the last session.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1851. French Spoliations-California Land Titles-Dry Docks- Cheap Postages-Flagrant Incendiarism. Mr. Hunter, to-day, in the Senate, made destruc-

tive work of the argument of Mr. Truman Smith in favor of the payment of the five miliions proposed as indemnity for French spoliations. Mr. Hunter started out with these two distinct and broad pro-

these indemnities, they have no right to expect to get off with the payment of a part; but that such payment must be followed by larger appropriations,

to meet the whole bill of habdines thus assumed.

2. That if this sum of five millions is intended as a mere gratuity, neither the reduced condition of the public treasury nor the expanding aggregate of our public debt, will justify such untimely gene-

of our public seed, with Jacobs, rosity.

Mr. Hunter then argued from the law of nations, from treaties, and the violations of treaties by France, that the United States were under no obligations to meet these spohations. He is a power particular to meet these spohations. gations to meet these spolations. He is

gations to meet these spoliations. He is a powerful debater, a clear-headed thinker, and, upon international or constitutional questions, is particularly hard to cope with. His speech has evidently
created some fluttering among the spoliation people;
but, we presume, Mr. Seward will attempt to do
something to repair the breach to morrow.

The Judiciary Commutee have reported a new
bill for the settlement of Cainfornia land titles—a
sett of compromise between that of Mr. Gwin and
the substitute of Mr. Benon; and the subject is
made the special order for next Monday.

Mr. Ewing has instituted an inquiry as to the podicy of the law of the last session, providing for a
dry dock at San Francisco. He thinks money can
be caved by amending the law. We suspect he
has in his eye Mesers. Dakin & Co., the celebrated dry dock builders, who, it is understood,
have been, or are to be, the builders of this San
Francisco dock; but that Mr Ewing has anybody
else in his eye, of course we can't suppose. else in his eye, of course we can't suppose.

The House bill for chesp postages has been referred to the Post Office Committee in the Senate.

We hope Mr. Rusk will report in season for action,

Several grog shop shanties on Pennsylvania ave-Several grog shop shanties on Pennsylvania avenue, all in a lump, and the Columbia tire engine house on Capitol Hill, were burned out last night—the fires being clearly the work of incendiaries. It is supposed they are the fruit of the recent fights and nots among our firemen, resulting from a spirit of jealousy excited by the visit of the Philadelphia Weccaooes.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2), 1861.

Evening Entertainments. Dinner at Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer's-very elegant, very select-and surpassing even the splenid dinners of Mr. Pakenham, which, as he boasted himself, before a parliamentary committee, were so far superior to a dinner at the White Mouse that the two did not deserve to be mea-lioned on the same day—or something like it. Sir-Henry, however, is very popular, which gives an additional zest to his roast beef and plum pudding. And we take the liberty to admonish Mr. Webster that his recollections of Sir Henry's irresistible society muss not induce or superraduce him to for-get that Chatfield is still cutting his anties in Cen-tral America, for surpassing in his officients activ-House that the two did not deserve to be men-

tral America, far surpassing in his anties in Cen-ity "the man with a white hat" in Texas, of some-time ago. Don't you remember something of that,

Don't you remember something of that, Loog, long ago, long ago, long ago, long ago, of that English chap in Texas - that rames diplomat. Who made Uaihoun sof watchful of that rame white hat. Long, long ago, long ago.

And as we are informed that Cha held wears the same colored hat, only with a much wider brim, it is manifest that he deserves even more vigilant attention. Let Mr. We bester attend to this second white hatted missionary of John But!

Amateur rausical concert of the Columbia Society. Some very elever singing.

Lecture at the Smithsonian Institution. Free. Well attended. The reats are so admirably arranged for every body to see every body all over the house, that no better place can be found for observation of the fashions, than the Smithsonian ecture room. That was a capital idica in the arrangement of that room. It draws to the driest cuties full house. Pity they could not have made the room a little larger upon \$750,000 capital.

National, or Jenny Lind Hall. Old theatre redi-

National, or Jenny Lind Holl. Old theatre redicivel. Circus Mile Caroline Loyo. Crowded
house. Circus neaer fails u Washington. Quite
a jam. Part of the fhoring gave way, precipitating several hundred people into the cellar. "Very little damage to any body, except
the barking of a number of shins and knee-pans,"
as a shrewd boy observed on coming out. Good
deal of construction and shrieking. Upwards of
a thousend of the audience left amid the confusion.
Going to have the work put up strong to morrow a thousend of the audience left amid the confusion.
Going to have the work put up strong to morrow
Adeloin Theatre, after the style of Mischell's

Olympic, as far as the room will allow.
house, and very clever performances.
Methodist revival on the island.
Dissolving views at Odd Fellows' Half.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1851. Calsfornia Land Titles- the Lill from the Judi-

ciary Committee of the Senate. Mr. Berrien, (one of t e very blest lawyers in the United States,) of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, to which was referred the bill of Mr. Gwin, and the substitute bill of Mr. Benton, providing for the settlement of land claims and land titles in California, reported, the other day, a substi-tute for both; and the following is a copy of the bill of the Judiciary Committee, which is made the special order for Monday, the 28th inst :-

A BILL TO ASCRETAIN AND SETTLE THE PRIVATE LAND
CLAIMS IN THE STATE OF CLAIPONING.

Both Claims in the State of America, in Congress assembled. That for the purpose of aspertaining and rettling private land claims in the State of Cainfornia, a commission shall be, and is hereby, constituted, which shall consist of three commissioners, to be appointed by the President of the United States, by and mission shall continue for three years and the control of the United States.

Sac. 2. And be it further emeted. That a secretary, skillied in the Spanish and English inguages, shall be appointed by the said commissioners, whose duty it while the control of the United States.

Sac. 2. And be it further emeted. That such clerks, not to exceed fire in number, as may be necessary, shall be appointed by the said commission.

Ecc. 3. And be it further emeted, That such clerks, not to exceed fire in number, as may be necessary, shall be appointed by the said commission.

Ecc. 3. And be it further emeted. That is can be seen that it is allowed to the control of the Province of the Provi fully the nature of the cisim and the names of the original and present claimants, and shall contain a deraignment of the claimant's title; and the answer of the District Attorney in behalf of the United States, shall fully and distinctly set forth the grounds on which the said claim is alleged to be invalid, copies of which answers shall be served upon the adverse party thirty days before the meeting of the court; and thereupon at the first term of the court thereafter, the said case shall stand for trial unless on cause shown the same shall be continued by the court.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted. That the District Court shall proceed to render judgment upon the pleadings and evidence in the case, and upon such further evidence as may be taken by order of the said court, and shall, or application of the party against whom judgment is rendered grant an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, on payment of such reasonable costs as shall be allowed by the court, and on such security for costs thereafter to accrue as the said court shall prescribe.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted. That the commissioners herein provided for, and the District and Sudoners herein provided for and the District and Sudoners her

Sec. 11. And he it further enseted. That the commissioners herein provided for, and the District and suppreme Courts. In deciding on the validity of any claim brought before them under the previsions of this act, abail he governed by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the law of nations, the laws, usages, and customs of the government from which the claim is derived, the principles of equity, and the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, so far as they are applicable.

act, stail he coverned by the treaty of Guadaupe Ridaigo, the law of nations, the law, usages, and customs of the government from which the claim is derived, the principles of equity, and the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, so far as they are applicable.

Bec. 12. And he it further enacted. That to smittle either party te a review of the proceedings and decision of the commissioners hereinhefore provided for, notice of the intention of such party to file a petition to the District Court shall be entered on the journal or record of proceedings of the commissioners within sixty days after their decision on the claim has been made and notified to the paties, and such petition shall be filed in the District Court within six months after such decision has been rendered.

Sec. 13. And be it jurther enacted. That all lands, the claims to which has been finally rejected by the cummissioners in manner herein provided, or which shall be flushly decided to be invalid by the District or Supreme Court, and all lands, the claims to which shall be flushly decided to be invalid by the District or Supreme Court, a parent shall issue to the claims in upon his presenting to the General Land Office, an authentic certificate of such confirmation, and a plat or survey of the said land, duly certified and approved by the Surveyor General shall have the same power and authority as are conferred on the public moneys of Louisians, by the slath search of the public fands of the land effice and the receiver of the public fands of the said claims, the Surveyor General shall have the same power and authority as are conferred on the reddiscion of the said claims, the Surveyor General shall have the same power and authority as are conferred on the reddiscion of the said claims, the Surveyor General shall have the same for the land effice and the receiver of the public fland for the state claims of the public fland of the said claims, the Surveyor General shall have the same power and authority as a constant of the same an

seed in sericulture or labor of any kind, and also those which are occupied and cultivated by Pushles or Rancheron Indians.

Sec. 17. And be lit further enacted, That each commissioner appointed under this act, shall be allowed and paid at the rate of six thousand dollars per annum; that the secretary of the commissioners shall be allowed and paid at the rate of four thousand dollars per annum; and the clerks herein provided for, shall be allowed and paid at the rate of one thousand five hundred dollars per annum. The aforesaid salaries to commence from the day of the notification by the commissioners of the first meeting of the board.

Sec. 18. And be it further enacted That the secretary of the board shall receive un fee except for furnishing certified copies of any paper or record, and friesuing writs of subpona. For furnishing certified copies of any paper or for issuing writs of subpona, fifty cents for each witness, which fees the ill be equally divided between the said secretary and the assistant clerk.

Sec. 19. And be it further enacted. That the sum of fifty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for the purpose of carrying this act into effect, to be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Washingron, Jan. 24, 1851.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1851. Important Information Relative to Nicaragua and the Movements of the English-The Call of the Senate for Documents-Interference of Sir Henry Bulwer in our Diplomatic Operations-The Ni-caregua Canal-The Tehuantepec Routs-The

English and Oriental Trade.
The movement of General Shields, in the Senate, n reference to Central America, has created no little fluttering in certain circles. The resolution of the Senator took his colleagues by surprise; and although there are some who would like to avoid stirring the subject, they dared not provoke popular indignation by opposing the motion. The resolution calls for information from the Department of Senature 1. ment of State, in respect to the present condition of

lar indignation by opposing the motion. The resolution calls for information from the Department of State, in respect to the present condition of affairs in Central America. How soon an answer may be given, it is impossible to say; probably not until within a day or two of the close of the session, at an hour too late for any action. It is to be hoped, therefore, that General Shields will not let the matter rest here, for it is notorious that the government has received no advices, except through English hands, since the re-call or Mr. Squier. It has been said that a special agent was sent to Nicaragua, by Mr. Webster, shordly after his accession to office, but such is not the fact. No agent has been sent, and the sole information which the government has received from Central America, during the last six months, has been through the public prints. Beyond a single letter from the government of Nicaragua, announcing the appointment of a minister to this country, an official communication has been had from there.

Nor is it true that the Department of State has been advised, by the British government, of its retundant of the pretensions in San Juan or on the Mosquito shore. The utmost that is known is the private assurance of Mr. Bulwer, that the two-penny duty which the British Consul levied in San Juan is to be temporarily suspended, and nothing more. As for the assurances of the ultimate evacuation of the country, and all that—it is simply bosh! The fact is, all these stories of "adjustment," and "satisfactory understanding," etc., etc., weekly telegraphed from this city, to amuse the public and keep down the popular feeling, originate with certain busy members of the redoubtable Canal Company, who want to sell their stock in England and New York, and who are therefore interested that the truth shall not be known. They are "thick as bugs in a rug" with Bulwer, whose subservience to their projects is secured, if report speaks true, by promises of a large share in the proceeds of the speculation! Bethat as it ma

ALACRAN. African Colonization. OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE. Washington, Jan. 21, 1851.
Thirty-fourth Annual Meeting of the American

Colonization Society-Interesting Processings. The American Colonization Society, to whose labors mankind are indebted for the promising young republic of civilized black men erected upon the west coast of Africa-a society which has don more for the suppression of the African slave-trade than the combined fleets of England, France, and the United States-held its thirty-fourth anniver-

than the combined fleets of Eagland, France, and the United States—held its thirty-fourth anniversary meeting in the Four-and-a-half street Presbyterian church, this evening, commencing at half past seven o'clock. The house was crowded with a refined and intelligent audience, and conspicuous among the distinguished people present was the President of the United States. The great object, however, to the audience, was the expected speech from Heary Clay.

Mr. Clay, as President of the Society, addressed the society and the audience in a clear and comprehensive view of the objects, the good results, and splendid prospects of the great scheme of African colonization. He spoke of the institution of slavery—here it was and here it would continue till abolished by the sword, or by law, or by natural causes. In the course of time natural causes would abolish it, when the density of our population would become such as to render the pressure of free white labor for employment, cheaper than slave labor. But here was the institution, and here were the free blacks, whose condition in our community must inevitably be a degraded condition. There was no hope for them among us. But there was Laberia. And here the venerable statesman expanded into his old time cloquence on the benign effects or African colonization, in its benefits to all sections, colors and races in this country, and particularly in its benefits to the free blacks, in their social, moral, and political elevation, under a government of their own, from their debasing and degraded condition in the United States. The benefits of this colonization, carried out as proposed, would be felt by all mankind, in the enlightenment, civilization and regeneration of Africa, and in the developement of her immense commercial resources, peritualarly in coffee, which were almost traded condition in the United States. The colon zation of the west coast of Africa would moreover put a permanent and effective blockside upon the slave trade, because along the Sio miles of coast new o

to take up this subject of colonization. He was repeatedly applanded in the course of his able and interesting discourse.

The secretary of the Society next read an abstract of the annual report, from which it appears that the number of free persons of color taken to Laberia during the past year, was 507; that the receipts of the Society were \$61,973 91; and their expenditures were \$65,951 94. Virginia has appropriated \$30,000 a year, for five years. Ohio, it shan, Keatucky, Tennessee, New Jersey, and Missouri, were also moving in this important matter of colonization. In the report, Mr. Stanton's site amship project is highly applanded. The affairs of Literia are prosperous. They had bought out and suppressed that horrible slave batraccoonery of the Gathinas; and now, from Cape Palmas to Sieria, Leone, there is not a single slave factory. The Society anticipate a large increase of emigrants this year to Liberia.

The Rev Mr. Fuller, of Maryland, was next brought forward, who spoke upon a resolution urging a more vigorous prosecution of the great work of colonization. He enlarged upon his subject very eloquently and learnedly for upwards of an hour, pleading the cause of colonization as the only pessable hope for the salvation of the black men, and of the peace of this Union. He was strengly in favor of Congress encouraging the cause of colonization, even to the purchase, under proper regulations, of slaves from their masters, for emigration to Liberia.

Mr. Latrobe, of Baltimore, for a quarter of a century a member of the society, followed next, in a very interesting speech. He conteaded that we might as well attempt to ball out Lake Erie with a hitchen utensil, as to transport, by all the means of all the States and the federal government cemi

bined, the free colored people of the United States to the coast of Africa. It could not be done. But there was another thing which could be done. Africa might be made so attractive to the oppressed black people in the United States that they would emigrate there as rapidly as the Irish or Germans come to our shores. That was the great severate of colonization. Upon this theme, he spoke with remarkable readiness and ability.

Hon. Mr. Stanton, of Tennessee, Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, of the House, from the lateness of the hour, was precluded from the repech which all had expected in favor of the Ebony line of steamers to Africa, as an ally in the colonization cause. He was curtailed to an outline, in which he represented the free blacks in the Union as the true secret of the excitements and spitations on the slavery question, and their removal voluntarily to Africa as the indispensable thing to the restoration of the harmony of the country. To sid in this work, he should stand or fall in the prosecution of the proposed line of ateamers to the coast of Africa. (Applause)

Hon Mr. Reed, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution recommending the achnowledgment by our government of Liberia as an independent nation, which was unanimously adopted, and, at half-past 10 o'clock, the meeting adjourned.

More American Specimens for the World' Fair, &c.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1861. Washington, Jan 21, 1851.
The following additional articles have been re ceived by the Central Committee, and certificates issued permitting them to be shipped for the great London Industrial Exhibition. Official notification has been received that Massachusetts will require room for 200 tons, and Michigan desires a larger space than has been apportioned her. In fact, instead of there being a lack of interest in the matter, the probability is that the St. Lawrence will ter, the probability is that the St. Lawrence will not be able to carry all the articles which will be offered. Arthur J. Stansbury, Esq., Recording Secretary of the National Institute, proceeds to New York, to-morrow, to superintend the shipping of the articles—the vessel having to sail on the first of next month. It will be seen the memorial of the authorities of Southampton, that that port should be selected for the transhipment of the products, has been acceded to by the President:—

MARYLAND.

MARYLAND.

Esra Whitmore, Maryland; railway horse power and

Esta Woltmore. Maryland; railway horse power and strawoutter.

VERMONT.

Rev. Z. Thompson; Vermont wood.

James Cook, Burlington; mill cloths.

Miss M. Williams; autumn leaves.

E. Parmenter, bird's eye maple vensers.

L. Dean; maple sugar.

W. Earnes; do.

John Cacil; slate pencils.

Miss C. F. Peck; silk hose.

Mr. John B. Fierce; silk handkerchifes and marble.

Sidney H. Penniman; lime.

Henry W. Catlin; flour.

J. R. Benjamia; brass spring trusses.

Elijah McLeuan; American polish.

P. O. Kittredge; corn husk mattresses.

Peter Remess; bust of Bisbop Upfold.

Hull & Speer; iron centre plough.

S. Eakins; galvanie plastic hydrometer.

Abel Baker; a pump.

C. B. Eccess. a nonch.

B. Eakins; galvanic plastic hydrometer.
Abel Baker; a pump
C. B. Rogers; a plough.
Brown & Wells; tools.
Hart, Montgomery & Co; paper hangings.
J. S. Pulsifer; an alphabet.
Power & Weightman; chemicals.
T. Fisher; mathematical and physical diagrams.
Amble & Avery; mechanical dentistry.
H. P. & W. Taylor; transparent scaps.
VIRGINIA. Ambie & Avery; mechanical dentistry.

H. F. & W. Taylor; transparent scaps.
VisGinia.

W. A. Pratt & Co.; daguerrectypes.
Peter Robinson; manufactured tobacco.
G. Z. Miles; saddles.

B. W. Sims; iron ore.
T. & S. Hardgrove; manufactured tobacco.
C. Bragton; green sand marl.
Institute for the Blind; becks, types, etc.
J. H. Cocke: iron ore, scap stone, and minerals.
Dill & Mulchokey; manufactured tobacco.
E. H. Sims; roong elate and a slab of elate.
Jennings & Ciaghorn; gentleman's raddle.
E. Hobson; gold ore.
R. B. Patterson; iron ore.
W. Faber; mineral ore—glenn and silver combined.
R. Anderson & Co.; iron sres.
Belvidere Manufacturing Company; envelope paper.
J. Brown; quartz rock.
J. H. Grant; manufactured tobacco.
Socrates Maufin; minerals.
NEW JERSEY.

A. C. Farrington; hematite.

J. S. Demarest; slik plush for hats. John S. Morgan; cotton. G. H. W. Collin; minerals. Enoch Steere; liquid oil polish blacking Enoca Steers; Inquid on poiss nacking.

CONNECTICUT.

J. A. Pay & Co : planing, sash, &c., machines.

Haywood Rubber Co : India rubber boots and shoe
Goody-sr's M. Rubber Bhoe Co : India rubber.

Penfield & Camp; Judd's medicated liquid cuticle.

Penneld & Camp; Judd's medicated liquid cutiols.

J. W. Cochrane; engineery and mechanism.
Day & Newell; parautroplic permutating cocks.

J. Lathrop; Genesse wheat flour.

Hiram Finch, do do.

W. Colgate & Co.; pearl starch.
Dr. J. Gray; artificial human eyes.

Mrs. W. Simmons; millinery.

J. A. Gardner; curry combs.
Ogler & Auderson; tobacco. Mrs. w. Simmoes; millinery. J. A. Gardner; curry combs. Ogier & Anderson; tobacco. Josiah Masy & Sons; spermacetti and candles. Pecali & Smith; ten-chamber self-cocking and

Pecali & Smith; ten-chamber self cooking and repeating pistols.

Horsee H. Day; India rubber manufactures.

Charles Bourgard; bair work.

J. W. Colton; map of the world.

W. J. Harrington; stained glass.

L. H. Boole; model of a clipper ship.

J. Spaulding; silk quit.

A. J. Rousseau; iron ore.

F. Borham; plaster model of the N. Y. Exchange.

A case involving a large amount of property is now being argued before the Supreme Court. It is the United States, a pellants, vs. the authorities of the cities of Philadelphia and New Orleans. The property at issue consists of that portion of the Bastrop grant in Louisiana which was devised to the cities of Philadelphia and New Orleans, by Stephen Girard. The United States deny the validity of the Bastrop, title, and claim the whole of the lands thus bequeathed as a portion of the public domain. George Strawbridge, Esq., and the Hon. Pierre Soulé for the appellees, and the Attorney General for United States.

The LATE AMALGAMATION CASE IN BOSTON—The

inc demain. George Strawbridge, Esq., and the Hon. Pierre Soulé for the appellees, and the Attorney General for United States.

The LATE AMALGAMATION CASE IN BOSTON.—The facts in the following despatch from this city to New York were known to us shortly after they transpired. We did not make them public, out of regard for the feelings of the misguided girl's family, who are very respectable and worsthy people; but now that the telegraph has laid them before the public, we feel it incumbent upon us to give what we have good reasons for believing is the true statement of the circumstances of this unfortunate affair:—It will, of course, be recollected that some four weeks ago the city papers chronicled the disapprarance of the young lady mentioned above, ifteen years of a.e., from her father's house in this city. Although the most thorough search was made for her by her friends, no clue was obtained to her whereabouts until the police interested themselves in the matter. She was traced from various places in this city to Roxbury, where she was found cohabiting with a negro as his lawful, wedded wife. It seems that she wandered away from her father's house, while laboring under a partial aberration of mind, to which she had been often of late, as was well known to her family, subjected. She west wandering about when she met the negro to whom she was afterwards martied. She asked him to conduct her to her father's house. He promised to do so; but instead of fal'alling his promise he took her to a bouse upon "nigger hill." By his importunities and protestations of atrachment, and the fact, as stated in the dispatch, that her parents being strong abolitionists, probably had inculciated upon her mind the wickedness of entertaining prejudice against color, he at length obtained her consent to marry him. A license (which it is a very easy thing to get under our new law) was soon obtained, and a clergyman was soon found has enough to make the two one flesh. We do not know the elergyman's name, or we should publish it. How DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT CINCINNATI. -A fire broke

Destrective Fire at Ciscisnati.—A fire broke out yesterdey morning, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'dock, in the extensive candle and soap manufactory of Grass & Dietrich, on Western Row, and before the flames could be suppressed, the whole of the factory and several astoning buildings were consumed. The following are the defails of the losses, so far as we have occal enabled to ascernant them:—Gross & Dietrich's toss in sock, building and machinery, is estimated at \$100,000; insurence \$40,000. A Diete, "White House Tavern," and cooper shop, destroyed; loss about \$5,000; partial insurance. Je an Stockum's dwelling house, loss not known; inchiner principally destroyed. Two other smed frame dwelling houses, owned by Mrs. Johnston, were also consumed.—Cincinnati Communical, Jan. 16.

Affairs at the State Capital. OUR ALBANY CORRES ALBANY, January 20, 1851. The Senate of New York Compelling the Treasur to Pay Postage on Documents.

The Senate of this State, to-day, have adopted solution which ought to be circulated with electric speed throughout the State. It is to draw upon the treasury for the paymen of postage on all docu-ments which Senators may choose to put in the mail bags, directed to any part of the country—Calibags, directed to any part of the country—California, or even any section of the globe. That body have voted themselves the franking privilege, which may involve the State in an expense of many thousards of dollars annually. It is well known what a great amount of expense is incurred by members of Congress, in the enormous abuse of the franking privilege, particularly in the circulating of electioneering documents pending every Presidential election. At Washington, once in every four years, both parties station committees of Congressmen, who employ all their time in preparing for the mails such speeches, memoirs, reports, &c., as it is believed are calculated to advance the interests of their particular favorite, loading the mails with tons upon tons of printed matter, which has to be conveyed to almost every post office in the Union, free of postage, and free of all charge, to individuals or committees. Not only this, but members of Congress, during election contests, repair to the newspaper offices, and there endorse their names upon wrappers, thousands upon thousands, to be used in the tree circulation of such political documents as the party interests may desire. And further, members of Congress, who are lawyers, (and two-thirds of them always are.) before leaving home for Washington, leave with their partners or clerks, a sufficient number of franked envelopes to answer all purposes, even of a private nature, while absent. It is well known that the mails are constantly burthened with free matter, for which mether members of Congress the abolition of the franking privilege. Knowing all these facts—having them kept constantly in view—the New York State Senate have deliberately voted, in direct violation of the often repeated opinion of the people, a tax of several thousand dollars from the State Treasury, for the purpose of sending abroad reports, messages, and other papers. It was alleged during the debate that the masses of the people were uninformed as to the doings of the Legislature at the capitol—that fornia, or even any section of the globe. That body have voted themselves the franking privilege,

enormous expense of printing, they deliberately vote to add an item which will swell the amount of contingent expense for postage to an alarming degree. One Senator remarked that the postage would exceed their salary for the session. So alarming had the amount of printing extra numbers of reports and documents become, that, some five or six days since, they adopted a joint rule that not an extra copy should be printed without the concurrence of both houses; and before that proposition becomes disposed of, this same body—these identical wise men—adopt a simple resolution—not concurrent—voting a privilege to themselves, at a great public cost, which no body of State representatives ever before ventured to propose.

But who will obtain these legislative papers—these voluminous documents? Will they be sent to the masses or to the political leaders of the masses? To the latter, of a certainty. How, then, are the masses to be benefitted by drauing this postage from the treasury? The only manner in which intelligence is conveyed to them is through the newspapers—mostly the local ones—and at its utterly useless for Senators, or any one else, to allege that, by sending volumes from the State capitol at the public expense, the great mass of the people are to become the recipients of them.

A precedent being now fairly established by the

great mass of the people are to become the recipients of them.

A precedent being now fairly established by the
dignified Senate, it is very natural to conclude that
the House will enderse the proposition, and adopt
a similar resolution. And if there is fear that
thirty-two Senators will use a large contingent
fund, for the purpose of paying their postage, how
much larger fund will be required to pay the franking of one hundred and twenty-eight members of
the House?

The principal advocates for the measure, in the

The principal advocates for the measure, in the Senate, were Messrs. Brandreth, Miller, Stanton, and Owen; its opponents, Messrs. Johnson, Carroll, Dart, Crolius, Williams, Cross, and Morgan.

A Day Assigned for Choosing U. S. Senator-Gov. Hunt's First Soiree-Lt. Governor Church-Senators Voting Themselves Postage—Attack on District Attorney Blunt-Ministers Compelled to Pay Taxes, &c , &c.

This morning, Mr. Wheeler, whig, of Franklin county, an aspiring woolley head, offered a reso-lution that the Legislature proceed to the election of United States Senator, on the 4th day of Febru-expires on the 4th of March next. The reason why

Lieut Governor Church and family occupy lodgings and parlors at the Mansion House, where their friends are received in a quiet and ucostentatious "rural" manner, without partaking in any degree of the cold and measured formality of city enquerie. Since their arrival at the capital, the first week in January, they have received the visits of many of the most respected citizens and their ladies.

dies.
The Separe spent another day (this day) in die The scenar spent anemer day (ms day) in on-cussing the subject of postage. On Monday, a resolution was adopted, charging upon the State the postage on all documents which Senators may choose to send to their constituents during the session. This morning, a motion was made to rechoose to send to their constituents during the session. This morning, a motion was made to reconsider the vote on the resolution, and upon which a discussion ensued, which consumed nearly the whole day. The fact came out during the discussion, that the amount of postage on documents sent by Senators yesterday, the first day after they voted to themselves the privilege, amounted to the sum of hearly twenty two dotlars. Several Senators, this morning, stated that, although that amount was expended yesterday, not more than one half of the members availed hemselves of that privilege; and that, therefore, had all the Senators sent documents, the amount would have been double. In the discussion this morning, upon the question of re-consideration, Senators occume divided by localities—there in favor of paying the postage were from the "rural districts," and those in opposition are from the principal cities in the State.

in opposition are from the principal cities in the State.

Although by sending public documents at the public expense, a greater amount of light, information and intelligence may be diffused among the people, it pairs are taken to transmit them to the masses, who are most desirous of obtaining a knowledge of the doings of the Legislature. But it was argued that this privilege might possibly be abased, as is now so lavishly done by members of Congress, either at Washington, or at any other part of the country. It was also feared that this would be an entering wedge for other expenditures, and that the Assembly would openly immate the example set by the Senate. It was also urged that members of the legiclarore were as much entitled to this privilege as the State officers, whose account of possage amounted to some four thousand dollars during the light year. The matten to reconsider was lost, and the New York State Senators are allowed to frank all the public documents, whether in huge volumes the New York State Senators are allowed to trank all the public decuments, whether in huge volumes of decumentary history, agricultural transactions, or any other voluminous work which may be printed. Hurrs, for economy and reform:

Mr Tewnsend, a member of the House from this city, introduced a bill to day making all the district afformers in the State salaried offices.

Has this movement any reference to the newly elected district attorney in the city of New York? There are very few qualified lawyers who would accept the office in that city, unless a salary was attached nearly equivalent to the value of private

attached nearly equivalent to the value of private practice.

The probability is that the present Legislature will repeal so much of the provisions of the revised statutes, as exempts the property of ministers of the gospel from taxation. A bill for that purpose ha aiready passed the House by a very large majority, nearly five to one, and transmitted to the "upper house." where it will encounter considerable opposition; and if those who are interested do not make their appearance, with their white neckerchiefs, in the course of a week, the Senate may also sanction the bill. Gov. Hunt being an anti-veto man, will not withhold his sanction, if called upon to sign it.

The project for erecting a new public building for the accommodation of the State Library, at an original estimate of some \$25,000, will require double that sum before completion. Such a building is necessary—and when the library becomes removed from the rooms it now occupies, some half dozen legislative committee rooms can be formed, which are very much needed.

Our Auburn Correspondence.

Our Auburn Correspondence

AUBURN, Cayuga County, Jan. 17, 1851. No State Prison Appointments—Adjournment of the Inspectors—The Party Leaders at Variance— The Establishment of a New Democratic Or-

We, out here, in the "rural districts," even if we searcely know how to keep out of the way of the "New York omnibuses" when visiting your city, have, occasionally, upon our village, or "city," boards, scenes of a comico-tragico nature presented before us, which would defy the un-washed rabble of Tammany, or the silk-stocking moustachoes of the Broadway House, to outdo, or even to imitate.

reven to imitate.

The new Board of Prison Inspectors met here a few days since, for the purpose of democratizing the State workshops. Mr. Clark being of the hunker, Mr. Argel of the baraburner, and Mr. Wells of the woolley-Weed whig order, it was supposed it would be a matter of doubt what sort of politicians would be acceptable to the majority for prison officers. Should it be concluded to make the selection from the "higher-law section," then Wells and Angel would comprise the majority; but if the old party lines proper were to be drawn, then Clark and Angel controlled the appointments. It was soon ascertained that the latter course would be taken. The majority were then beset with the Auburn regency, led by Mr. How and Mr. Rathbun, demanding the appointment of such men for warden, agent, physicisa, and clerk, as they determined upon. A formidable opposition presented themselves from Cato Four Cerners, and that section of the country, asking the sppointment of Mr. Titus as warden. This section was led by Wm. S. lugham, whose influence in the democratic portion of the country is very great, and te disappoint whose wishes, when he is determined, would be a hazardous matter. Ingham had several interviews with Angel, who appeared very anxious that the two contending factions should harmonise, but gave lighem ne pledge that Titus' name would be preferred to the gentleman of the Rathbun faction. It was conceded that all the principal offices, with the exception of warden, might be given to the hunkers; and those who were contending for and against Tims, being of the burner side, it was hoped would agree upon their man, so as to leave matters easy for the inspectors. Dr. Clark was staified with the portion allotted to the hunkers, did not choose to interfere in the candidate for warden, and told the contending parties that whoever Mr. Angel presented should receive his sanction; although if was well known that the Doctor would prefer Mr. Titus in case he should present any name. Rathbun and How, rather the hunkers. The new Board of Prison Inspectors met here a few days since, for the purpose of democratizing

these two men, Mr. How being the ostensible editor. Neither section of the party have such regard for it, on account of the tameness of its editorials, and also from its tardiness in opposing the action of the opposite party. It is now strongly threatened, that should this clique finally succeed in preventing the appointment of Titus, a large majority of the party in Cayuga will demand the establishment of another organ. The frieads of Titus also deciare, and strongly threaten, that if he is defeated, they will suffer the whigs to control the county hereafter. The feeling that has grown up in relation to this matter has broome quite bitter and personally hostile. It seems the more strange, as the contending parties have stood shoulder to shoulder in battle array against both their whig and hunker enemies ever since the construction of the Buffals platform. This aght, luckily, can injure no section or party but the barnburners themselves, and the liberal and considerate amongst us here in Auburn and the county through, would like to see the fight continue, in the hope that it may extend through the whole State, and happily eventuate in extinguishing the fell spirit of barnburnerism.

In conversation with the Inspectors, I ascertained that Dr. Clark and Mr. Angel are perfectly aware of the game which applicants for office play upon them, which is this:—A baraburner wanting a place, ascertains what hunker possesses influence with Dr. Clark, and obtains from him (now that the party is perfectly united) a recommendation of party fidelity, qualifications, &c. Having obtained this, it is a very easy matter to obtain a strong recommendation from a baruburner friend to Angel, which secures to him the strongth of both is cause of the party, and therefore must reader him an unexceptionable democrat. Several of the hunker candidates have played the same card.

The inspectors will be at Sing Sing in the course of three or four days, where there will also be a great contest for officers; but it is strongly auspected that Dr.

and Dr. Brandreth's "slate"

The Workster Railroad Defallation Case.

—The Boston Times, of the 23d inst., gives the following relative to the charges against Amos W. Dana, now on trial in that city, for damages to the amount of \$29,000 :—The first count in the writ claims \$20,000 damages for money received for the sale of tickets by detendant, and not accounted for during the six years ending in 1847; and secondly, for each received and not accounted for, for freight, elements, season tickets, &c. for the sale of tickets by detendant, and not accounted for during the six years easing in 1847; and secondly, for each received and not accounted for, for freight, eleepers, season tickets, &e., \$1,819 44. The counsel for the proceeding commenced by stating that the defendant was appointed depot master in 1841. Subsequently he had acted as clerk in superintendent's office, clerk in ticket office, and conductor, with salarias varying from \$100 to \$700 per year. In 1883, discrepancies to a considerable amount were discovered between the receipts and the number of tickets sold, by a comparison of the returns of the superintendent and treasurer. Among other changes proceed at this time, was to abolish the office of depot master, and to appoint Mr. Danh an assistant in the ticket other, if he was to be responsible for the money receipts, and upon inquiry being made for his reasons. Mr. 8 made certain disclosures as to the conduct of Mr. Danh in the sale of emigrant tickets. For any intendent called upon Mesers. Ray & Co., forwarders of emigrants, as to the number tickets they had purchased of Mr. Danh in 1848. The number was 1,213, and in 1849 about the same number. Upon inquiries at the ticket office, it was found that the number changed to Mr. D., during the same period, was only 25. Mr. D. attempted to explain this discrepancy, by saying he had paid cash either in person, or through the porters at the ticket office, for all tickets furnished Mesers. Ray, except the 25 charged. This explanation not being satisfactory to the officers of the road, a time was fixed upon for hum to appear before the directors. He did appear, but failed to satisfy them. Mr. D. asked the directors if he was to be held responsible for missing second class tickets, when the same discrepancy existed with reference to 1st class tickets, when the same discrepancy existed with reference to list class tickets, when the same discrepancy existed with pocketing the proceeds of forty special Westbero tickets, on sundry freight bills; thirty-three